**Subject No. 46.**
**Sub-Registrars to be in charge of Lock-ups during the absence of Munsiffs.**

*Summary of discussion.*—Amildars have to attend to lock-up work during the absence of Munsiffs. Sub-Registrars should be placed in subordination to Amildars and deputed for this work. They should be required to hold their office in a portion of the Taluk Cutcherry.

*Reply of Government.*—This is being gradually done.

**Subject No. 47.**
**Depositions given before Taluk Magistrates should be signed by those who give them.**

*Summary of discussion.*—Persons giving depositions before Taluk Magistrates should be required to affix their signatures thereto.

*Reply of Government.*—The present practice is in accordance with the Code of Criminal Procedure and needs no alteration.

**Subject No. 48.**
**Honorary Magistrates and Judges.**

*Summary of discussion.*—(*a*) Patels of villages may be empowered to try Civil suits of the value of Rs. 20 and under and petty Criminal cases. A draft Regulation was published some time ago but nothing more was done. Effect may now be given to it in some select localities at least. In the bordering district of South Canara, patels have been exercising the power from 1814.

(*b*) The establishment of Village Panchayat Courts is desirable in the interests of the public. The arrangement may be tried as an experimental measure in some places at least.

(*c*) In the trial of Criminal and Revenue Cases, a panchayat consisting of respectable persons should be associated with Amildars.

*Reply of Government.*—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*). The Government have given the subject their careful consideration and are of opinion that the time has not yet arrived for giving effect to the measures advocated.

**Subject No. 49.**
**One anna stamp to bear the stamp of year.**

*Summary of discussion.*—In order to guard against the fabrication of receipts and promissory notes, the year of the issue of one anna stamps should be worked into such stamps.

*Reply of Government.*—Arrangements have been made to have the year of manufacture impressed on such stamps.

**Subject No. 50.**
**Limit to the number of adjournments in Civil cases.**

*Summary of discussion.*—A limit should be placed upon the number of adjournments in Civil cases which at present are very frequent.

Other Members joined in the discussion and complained of inordinate delays and frequent adjournments causing heavy loss and serious inconvenience.

*Reply of Government.*—This will be referred to the Chief Court for enquiry and issue of suitable orders.

**Subject No. 51.**
**(a) Reduction of Court fees in certain cases.**

*Summary of discussion.*—In suits of the value of less than one thousand rupees which are numerous, the Court fee may be reduced to 5 per cent *ad valorem*.

*Reply of Government.*—Noted.